THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 11TH MAY.

A CONTEMPORARY indulges in a quiet joke. Says he, "Our frontier tribes show an impartiality in their treatment of their neighbours, which entitles them to our esteem. The reception prepared for the Ameer, on his return from the Rawalpindi Conference, was to relieve him of five or six of the Martini-Henry rifles with which he had just lately been presented. Fortunately the robbery occurred on the night after the Ameer had quitted British territory, so that the Indian Government is under no obligation to make good the loss."

A COMMISSION was recently appointed to enquire into the disaffection that exists among the officers of the Russian army and navy. The commission, which included amongst its members Grand Dukes, Ministers of State and Generals, has now decided, according to the Paris correspondent of the *Times*, that the revolutionary tendencies apparent among Russian officers, are due to the smallness of their pay and the slowness of promotion. That this tendency does really exist, may be proved by the fact that, within the last three years, no less than 200 Russian officers have been arrested as implicated, one way or another, in revolutionary movements. The commission is said to have recommended, amongst other reforms, that the rates of pay for officers of the line should be raised to the present rate for the Guards.

THE *Times of India* in reviewing Mr. Digby's famous book, "India for Indians and for England," institutes a comparison between how the surplus wealth of India used to be spent by the subjects of the Moghul Empire, and how it is expended now. It says that "under the old regime the surplus wealth went to build the Peacock Throne; it is now spent by the peasant and in the only luxury the oriental enjoys—ornaments." Here our contemporary has fallen into an historical error. The 24 crores were, every pice of them, paid out of the royal Exchequer—from surplus revenue—and the ruled were not asked to contribute a cowri-shell from out of their own surplus wealth towards its construction. Doubtless the money came from the revenue contributed by the people, but do the British Government remit that revenue? Taxation under British rule is much greater than what it was in the time of the owners of the peacock throne; and after all the money however spent went back to the people, and not remitted to England at the rate of twenty crores a year. Besides, our friend has mixed up riches with wealth, a hasty conclusion which he should have avoided.

LORD BRAMWELL, a member of the London Liberty and Property Defence Association, has published a pamphlet advocating the reasonableness of moderate drinking. As a defender of Liberty, he says that it is consistent with the general liberty of man that there should be no interference in the matter of his drink, which he defines as that which cheers, and inebriates if indulged in too freely. He argues that drinking begets pleasure, suppression of drinking means loss of that pleasure, and restriction of pleasure means infliction of positive pain which should be avoided. He tries to meet the arguments of the teetotallers that drinking brings on ruin and disease by saying that those who drink moderately may continue to do so, and others may leave it alone, or learn to take it moderately. He is doubtful whether society has a right to interfere with the personal liberty authorising drinking. But even if society were authorised to exercise such authority would it be reasonable, he asks, to deny a pleasure to a class because some of its members indulge too freely in it. If the drunkard ruins his health in private who is to prevent him? If he gets drunk in public, there is the law to prevent him. In short, the liquor laws are either to make men better who do not want to be better, or to make men better who have no self-control, and in both cases at the expense of others. Regarding the number of drink shops and the hours of opening and closing them, he says there should be no restriction, the punitive laws will fully correct any mischief which arises from them. Lord Bramwell has certainly the courage of his opinion and given a color and a plausibility to the hackneyed subject in his book which will create a profound sensation among the teetotallers.

THERE ARE at present 7 paper mills in India; three in the Presidency of Bombay, one at Lucknow, one at Gwalior, and two in Bengal. Of the two mills in Bengal, the Balli Mill scored the largest amount in 1883. Its outturn in that year, was 5,447,680lbs valued at Rs. 6,00,000. Next to Balli came the Gwalior mill which made 1,048,320lbs valued at Rs. 1,08,125. The kind of paper turned out by these Mills is coarse, and fine paper has yet to be indented from England and the continent of Europe; so there is yet room for enterprise and improvement.

TUESDAY, 12TH MAY.

SAYS A contemporary:—"Mr. Keys, Superintendent of the Government Gazette Press at Madras, has, at the request of the Local Government, given an opinion as to the best method of reducing expenditure in State printing. Mr. Keys gives it as his opinion that expenditure could be considerably reduced if the proceedings of Government in one department, were not reprinted in full in the proceedings of another department, as the re-setting of matter entails additional labour and expenditure. He also suggests that a further saving might be effected if enclosures and tabular statements were omitted as far as possible. Frequently many pages of matter have to be broken up after they have been set up according to copy, and he considers that expenditure might be somewhat reduced if copies of proceedings were not frequently asked for after the matter had been broken up. The 'confidential work' in which there has been a large increase of late years, might also, he suggests, be considerably reduced. After consulting the Board of Revenue and the heads of the different offices, the Government has come to the conclusion that, if proper care were exercised in all offices, the yearly cost in printing would be greatly reduced, and directs that the rules published in May, 1859, should be adhered to more strictly. These rules might be brought to the attention of the Government of India with advantage." Why speak of the Printing Department only? The expenses of every department under Government are so notoriously profligate that it would not cost a man great pains to examine the details for proposing retrenchment. We should be glad if Mr. Keys' opinion would open the eyes of the Government.

IN THE Calcutta column of a contemporary journal we find the following report of a series of suits against a member of the Civil Service: "Mr. Eggar appeared yesterday afternoon before the Chief Judge of the Small Cause Court and asked for leave to file plaints on behalf of various trading firms in Calcutta against Mr. F. J. G. Campbell, Judge of Rajshahye, he having failed to make any arrangement with regard to his indebtedness to the firms. The transactions took place in Calcutta, and the whole cause of action was, therefore, within the jurisdiction of the Presidency Small Cause Court. Mr. Eggar said that various sums were due to the firms, some in large amounts and some in small. The largest sum was Rs. 1,650, due to Messrs. Ramsay Wakefield and Co., for clothing supplied. The gentlemen representing the different firms were then sworn as to the sums due to their respective firms. The firms concerned were Messrs. Ramsay Wakefield and Co., Messrs. Francis, Ramsay and Co., Messrs. Monteith and Co., Messrs. Osler and Co., the *Indian Daily News*, the Great Eastern Hotel, Messrs. Manton and Co., *The Asian*, Messrs. Newman and Co., Messrs. Smith, Stanistreet and Co., and Messrs Badham Brothers. After the plaints were admitted, Mr. Eggar asked his Honor to fix a date for the hearing of all the cases, so as to avoid the inconvenience to the defendant of attending on different dates. His Honor said that they would all be heard on one date. All the big amounts would come before him, and all the small sums would be placed before another Judge." Is there not a Government order prohibiting a Government servant from making bargains for which he cannot pay?

"THE RUSSIAN plan of procedure in its march upon India is," an American paper remarks, "peculiar, but it never changes. They mass an army at some base, and when asked what it has been sent there for, give its concentration some innocent explanation. By and by it is pushed into some place where it has no business to be, and when it is asked to retire, it temporizes and explains, and promises, and lies, and in fact does everything but retire. That it never does unless it is driven out or fears to be. Astrabad, which is now the Russian base on the Caspian, was seized in this way some ten years ago. At that time the Russians did not attempt to deny that it was Persian territory, and for a few years continued to promise to evacuate it speedily, but all the while kept fortifying it, and now have no more intention of surrendering it than of surrendering Khiva. The way the Foreign Office at St. Petersburg gets out of these difficulties is by pleading the difficulty of controlling officers in those distant regions, and in fact, the necessity of leaving them a large share of liberty. The General in command of the force, which has been getting up the present trouble, is now set down as a 'hot-headed Panslavist,' but he is still in good standing with his Government." Our acute distant contemporary has made out what Russia is, but its neighbour has been denied a sketch of its real character.

WEDNESDAY, 13TH MAY.

RECENTLY in Germany a scientific journal made the statement that it would be beneficial to the eyesight to print books in dark-blue ink on pale green paper. The first volume printed in this way, "The Natural History of the Women of Berlin," has made its appearance.

MR. LESLIE STEPHEN gives the following interesting anecdote of the resources of the late Mr. Henry Fawcett 'smind. "His great difficulty was to persuade anybody to seriously believe that he meant to become a candidate for Parliament. When he went before committees they all agreed that he was a most clever and deserving young man, but they must have some one who could see. Finding he could not get any support he went to Southwark at the time of an election, took a room at a public-house, and had a bill on the door printed with the words 'Mr. Fawcett's Committee Room.' The committee consisted of himself and the boy who used to lead him about, but he engaged a man to mind the door, and gave him orders not to admit anybody upon any consideration. He next announced a public meeting, but no one came except a stray reporter. He induced the reporter to remain and got a few people from the bar to come up. A report of his speech got into the papers, and from that time he had crowded meetings. The Government, however, put forward a candidate, and he had to retire, but from that time he became a formidable candidate."

THE QUEEN is understood to disapprove of the form of the Gordon memorial proposed by the Mansion House Committee, and has not subscribed. The amount required for the Port Said hospital has not yet been obtained. Another project is being got up to establish Gordon refuges as asylums for poor children.

THE CALCUTTA CORRESPONDENT of the *Hindu* of Madras, says:—

A rumour has been current in Calcutta for the last six or seven days that His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal has made up his mind to give his sanction to the proposal of admitting Bengalis into the Volunteer Corps. How the rumour originated I do not know, and cannot, therefore, say how much truth there is in it. Sir Rivers Thompson, ever since assuming his present high office has been doing his utmost to injure the cause of Native progress in Bengal. How he has been doing it, is now well known to every reader of newspapers, and need not, therefore, require recapitulation. It would be quite a surprise if the rumour mentioned above proved after all to be true. There is a Bengali astrologer living in Calcutta, who predicted about two years ago that Sir Rivers Thompson would be very popular with the Natives before he lays down his office. If Sir Rivers has become so wise as to be willing to grant the Natives the privilege of enrolling themselves as Volunteers, he will no doubt, soon grow to be a very popular Governor, and all his past acts against the cause of Native improvement will be readily forgotten, thus fulfilling the prediction of our distinguished astrologer."

We never heard the rumour, and there can be no truth in it, for the question is an imperial one, and Sir Rivers Thompson cannot influence it one way or another. We have not heard, too, of the astrologer

but it needs no star-gazer to say that Sir Rivers will soon try to ingratiate himself with the servile throng who regulate the gift of addresses. His time for departure is coming on apace, and he would be displaying only ordinary human feeling if he should wish for a statue, a bust, or a portrait, when going away. A *chitti* he is sure to have from some section of the community or other. None ever missed it. A Secretary has only to say, "My dear Raja (or Nawab), You know Sir Rivers is your friend, and you should do him honor," and the thing is done. No change of policy is needed for such a purpose, and yet it is well to be thankful for small mercies and they cost very little to bestow. While on the subject, we think it would not be a bad plan, with a view to prevent heart-burning, to have in each district a local fund out of which every Assistant Magistrate may have a *carte de visite*; a Joint, a cabinet; a full Magistrate, a kitcat; and a Judge, a half length plus a dinner and fireworks. For the metropolis, the members of the Board of Revenue and the Judges of the High Court need have nothing as a rule for they do not ordinarily have many favors to bestow. But we would not grudge a half length, or a plaster bust for them, to prevent bad feeling. For Lieutenant Governors, we would have a full length in oil, or a bust in marble, and for a Viceroy a marble statue, with any amount of street decorations and *chitties*. The only objection to this plan appears to be that those who busy themselves most in getting up addresses and testimonials with a view to benefit themselves will derive no good by it.

Thursday 14th May.

Reuter tells us that the *London Daily News* has published a telegram from Simla stating that the British Commission is going to Herat to construct fortifications there with the consent of the Amir. The Simla correspondent of the Englishman corroborates the statement and names Colonel Stewart as one of the three going to fortify Herat.

The same authority further informs us that the St. Petersburgh Government has appointed a diplomatic agent at Calcutta. The news will have to be swallowed with a grain of salt.

Says a contemporary:—"It is the firm conviction of Yakub Khan, we learn, that it would be a fatal error on the part alike of the Amir and the British to give up Panjdeh. He regards it as a place of great strategical importance, the holder of which is virtually in possession of North-Western Afghanistan, and the straight road to India." But *cui bono*? Under certain circumstances grapes are sour.

We understand that the Commissioner of the Orissa Division has, in consultation with the superintending Engineer of the Katak Circle, thought it desirable to supply Puri with good drinking water, and in view of carrying out his scheme, which is now on hand, he will apply to the Native Princes and rich men of India to find funds for him to carry out the project. Good drinking water is a great desideratum at Puri, and we hope our wealthy countrymen will respond to the call of the Commissioner. But can't the Commissioner persuade the Government to apply a part of the funds of the Irrigation Canals, which, by the way, do not in any way contribute to Orissa's good, but on the contrary have become a source of infliction to it, to this humane object?

The Trustees of the Madras Civil Service Funds are about to have a windfall. They have found out that 50 lacks of rupees are due to the Fund by the Secretary of State for India. The history of this large accumulation is that when the Fund was first started, the Home Government, to help the scheme, had allowed 8 per cent. interest on all deposits; as these deposits have gone on increasing at a compound interest for a long time, the principal together with the interest accumulated on it has come up to this respectable hoard. The Government have acknowledged its liability but cut down the sum to 36 lacks. The Trustees demand the amount in full, whereupon a contemporary asks the Trustees to accept the proposals of the Government, as the Government law officers are not altogether favourably inclined to the Trustees. The Trustees should thank themselves that their demands have received the favourable consideration of the Government. We know of a certain case in which the Secretary of State declined point-blank to return the money which had accumulated on account of a Trust Fund; but then, Her Majesty's responsible Minister for India had good reasons to decline the request; the ward was a black nigger. We refer to the Moorshidabad Nizamut Fund. The Nizamut Fund was created for the benefit of the Newab from out of his pension, and yet the Secretary of State declined to refund the money to his ward.

With regard to the extension of Railway to Candahar Reuter tells us that "on both sides of the House it is admitted that, even if an arrangement be made now between the two Powers, it will only be temporary in its duration. Russia will push forward the construction of the railway from the Caspian till it reaches the Afghan Frontier, and when it is completed she will be able then to concentrate a large body of men on the confines of Afghanistan. The Indian and English Governments will, therefore, have to review their recent policy on the frontier. There is no doubt that the railway will be pushed forward to Quetta, and it is understood that the Amir has been asked to agree to its extension to Kandahar."

"Mr. Justice Birdwood gave an interesting lecture, on Thursday last, at the Sassoon Mechanics' Institute, the subject chosen being the 'Buried City of Brahmanabad.' The common opinion was that the city had been destroyed by an earthquake. Birdwood himself thought that it had been destroyed by a dust-storm, and described how very destructive dust-storms were in Sind—especially when in their greatest fury. Brahmanabad was a great and thriving city in former days, but now it was nothing but the home of wild beasts. Subsequently Mr. Justice Pinhey, in moving a vote of thanks to the lecturer, said that he had himself visited Brahmanabad, and was of opinion that the city had been destroyed by an inundation of the River Indus." When the two justices have differed in their opinion, the matter should be referred to a Full Bench with the Chief Justice at the head. Probably, the chief, to avoid displeasing either of his fellow justices, would make his colleagues concur in his judgment that the city was destroyed by moonshine.

Friday, 15th May.

Her Highness the Maharani of Baroda died on the 7th instant. It is a melancholy satisfaction that her death is regretted by all classes of people of Baroda. As usual there was a large gathering at the funeral.

A contemporary says, :—"Surely Colonel Weldon, Chief Presidency Magistrate at Madras, was inappropriately lenient in deciding the other day that a native warder of the Madras Lunatic Asylum, who was proved to have assaulted an unfortunate patient in the institution by striking him with his belt so as to leave marks on the poor man's body, would be adequately punished for his inhumanity by a fine of Rs. 5." Was the assaulted a European? or else, our contemporary could not have overflowed with so much of the milk of human kindness for a native lunatic. Tut, Colonel Weldon should have hanged the man for the very serious offence of giving a lunatic a thrash with a belt.

Reuter has telegraphed to the Calcutta dailies that on the night of the 8th instant, Sir Stafford Northcote gave notice of a resolution for a vote of censure which would be tantamount to stopping the credit until the House was informed regarding the policy of the Government and how the money would be employed. The question came up for discussion before the House on the night of the 11th, but it was negatived by an official Majority. Mr. Gladstone has, however, already announced in the Lower House that out of 11 million pounds granted by Parliament, 4 millions would go to cover the expenses of the Egyptian war, and the rest for warlike preparations, but he did not condescend to explain what he meant by warlike preparations. Evidently he considers the military strength of Great Britain to be weak.

The *Indian Daily News* has heard from Simla that some delicate negotiations are in progress between the Government of India and the India Office. It is supposed, with some show of reason, that these communications have reference to the orders countermanding the despatch of troops to this country. The Government of India urges the unwisdom of these orders at a time when the garrison of British troops in this country is 2,700 men below the normal strength in time of peace.

Mr. Slagg asked the Under-Secretary of State for India whether he could give any information as to the reasons which had led to the supercession of Professor Wordsworth in the Directorship of public Instruction in India. Mr. J. K. Cross answered: "The India Office has no direct information on this subject, the appointment being one which rests with the Government of Bombay. It is notified in the *Bombay Government Gazette* of March 19 that Mr. Lee-Warner, M.A., C.S., is to act as Director of Public Instruction during the absence of Mr. Chatfield or till further orders." The reply of the Under Secretary is extremely unsatisfactory, and knocks the hopes of the members of the department on the head. What a lame excuse was it to say that the India Office had no direct information on the subject. Did the matter then come up before the Secretary of State indirectly? The Secretary of State could have ascertained the reasons which induced the Government of Bombay to go out of its way if he were so inclined. There was a great hue and cry when Mr. Atkinson was appointed in supercession of Messrs. Woodrow and Montriou, and in reply to a memorial of the education service in Bengal, the then Secretary of State wrote that ordinarily the office of Director will be treated as a reward for the servicemen. Possibly, there is some extraordinary circumstance in connexion with Mr. Lee Warner, and in official estimation Mr. Wordsworth is not a fit person, seeing that he has so much sympathy for the people. That is always a grave disqualification.

Saturday, 16th May.

The number of candidates who have taken Honors in the B. A. Examination is 56; of these five-eigths took up English and Mathematics as Honor subjects, and the remaining three-eighths studied the different other subjects prescribed by the University. It is a noticeable fact that not a single candidate has succeeded in taking Honors in History and Political Economy. The number of students passed by the different Colleges is shewn against their names. Presidency College, 4 in English, 1 in Mental and Moral Science, 8 in Mathematics, 5 in Physics and Chemistry. Metropolitan Institution, 3 in English, 1 in Mental and Moral Science, and 4 in Sanskrit. Free Church Institution, 3 in English, 1 in Sanskrit, and 1 in Mathematics. General Assembly's Institution, 1 in Sanskrit, and 2 in Mathematics. Dacca College, 3 in English, and 1 in Mental and Moral Science. Hooghly College, 3 in Mathematics. Agra, College, 1 in English, and 1 in Mathematics. Muir Central College, 1 in English, 2 in Sanskrit, and 1 in Mathematics. Patna College, 3 in Mathematics. Canning College, 1 in Mental and Moral Science, 1 in Sanskrit, and 1 in Mathematics. Beneras College, 1 in Mental and Moral Science. Doveton College, 1 in English, and 1 Teacher. The gentleman from Agra College who occupied the foremost place in English has also taken second class Honors in Mathematics.

The long cherished desire of the Police Department of Bengal has at last been fulfilled. His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal has sanctioned the appointment of a photographer for the Police Department. Photographing criminals is a fashionable practice, and we do not care to stand in the way. But we should like to impress upon the Police officers, who will now have to deal with *photos* for the identification of culprits, the moral derivable from the following story. A Russian Police Officer of the Caucasian provinces was supplied with five likenesses of a fugitive convict taken in five different postures, and asked to hunt up the man if possible. This officer, in the exuberance of animal spirits, arrested a wrong man who bore a faint likeness to one of the five likenesses, and immediately telegraphed to St. Petersburgh that he was in receipt of the photos of five different culprits sent him, and that he had already succeeded in laying his hand upon one of them, and would keep an eye over the others. The poor innocent man was next sent under escort to the Head Quarters by this enthusiastic officer, where of course he was set at liberty. Our conviction is that 95 out of every 100 police men are incapable of identifying people from *cartes*.

The importance, nay the necessity, of maintaining the existence of the landholding classes of Bengal and Behar has been proved to Government beyond doubt by the occurrence of a paltry yet a very significant case at Sitamurhi in Behar. The Government had purchased a large number of bullocks at the place for frontier service, and required 300 men as bullock-drivers on Rs 8 a month, each. The salary induced at first a goodly number to come forward, but as soon as they learnt that they would have to go much beyond Allahabad, every one of them chucked up. The Government officers tried through the Police to procure the necessary complement of men, but the otherwise all-powerful peace-officers failed to carry out the order. A *purwana* was next issued to seven Zemindars of the Muzafarpur District calling upon them to furnish 30 men each to accompany the bullocks. With some trouble the Zemindars brought in their quota of bullock-drivers each, and the Government was saved a lot of bother and vexation. Yet the Government would wish to stamp this useful class out by depriving them of their patrimony with the help of an iniquitous law.

As the war has been some how averted, the Government of India is now thinking of doing away with the store at Quetta. The sale of stores is contemplated but where will Government find

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purchasers? Probably, most part of the articles will have to be thrown away.

THE REPORT of the Dewali Horse and Cattle Fair, held at Amritsar in October last, is out. There has been a decrease in the number of animals brought to the Fair by 40 per cent of previous year. This fact, the report states, indicates the prosperity of the people. The number of horses, mules, and donkeys &c., was 2,862 which fetched Rs. 1,56,702. The average price paid for remounts was Rs. 250; but the supply was not equal to the demand. Rs. 425 were awarded as prizes to mares and geldings. The fair was, as usual, well managed and there was little illness amongst the visitors. The Lieutenant-Governor has sanctioned the distribution of Rs. 243 in rewards and Khiluts to the native head officials who rendered good assistance in the management of the fair.

WE HAVE received a copy of a petition to the Viceroy signed by about 300 respectable gentlemen of Howrah and its neighbourhood, to wit, Zemindars Municipal Commissioners, Honorary Magistrates, Pleaders, Subordinate Judges, Medical Practitioners, Graduates &c &c, praying to allow them the privilege of being enrolled as volunteers. The petitioners justly urge that the educated native community yield to none in their high appreciation of the benefits of British rule, and in their unflinching loyalty to the throne of England. That the disability under which the native Christians labored in respect of joining in the defence of the country has lately been removed. That, even independently of the situation, the continuance of the bar to the achievement of this civic right on the score of religion alone would be inconsistent with the liberal principles iterated and reiterated in Statutes and Royal Proclamations. Finally, that the rejection of their prayer would cast an unmerited slur on their loyalty, besides acting as a check on the growth of their spirit of loyalty.

THE RESULT, of the last F. A. Examination are out. Of the candidates who presented themselves at the Examination, 40 students have passed in the first, 209 in the second, and 181 in the third division. Krishnaghur College heads the list this year.

THE TOTALS number of deaths registered during the week was 209 against 229 and 292 in the 2 preceeding weeks and 63 less than the corresponding week last year. From cholera there were 31 deaths against 65 and 70 in the 2 preceding weeks, the quinquennial mean being 62. There has been a very rapid decline in the mortality from this disease under the cooling and cleansing influence of the numerous heavy falls of rain that have taken place lately. There has not been such a small number of deaths from cholera in the corresponding week of any year since 1880. How sadly does this falsify the forecasts of Dr. Payne and the notorious memorialists! There were 5 deaths from small-pox against 10 and 8 in the 2 preceeding weeks. The general mortality of the week was at the rate of 25·1 per 1000 per annum.

WE THANK Mr. D. M. Trail for a copy of his Indian Diary for the current year. It is well got up, and will be of great use to men of business.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week:

London, May 13.—Mr. Gladstone, in the House of Commons, and Lord Granville, in the House of Lords, last night, qualified the statement made on Monday evening, regarding the satisfactory agreement which had resulted from the conference with M. de Staal and M. Lessar, by stating that the said agreement had been referred to the czar for his approval.

A discussion took place in the House of Lords relative to India and Russia. Lord Kimberley said that it was necessary to thoroughly strengthen the frontier between Afghanistan and India. He deprecated British troops holding Herat, though he said that it was necessary to fortify that place.

Lord Kimberley, during the discussion in the House of Lords last night, said that a plan for the defence of the Indian frontier had been prepared and approved, extending from Peshawar to the Indus Valley Railway. An expenditure of £5,000,000 had been authorised for Frontier Railway, and military roads, including the Quetta Railways which will cost £2,000,000. Further works may be necessary. His Lordship said:—"The Viceroy thinks with us that it is a matter for consideration whether there should not be strong fortresses on the frontier line." Our frontier, he said, should be defensible in case of Afghanistan being assailed or hostile.

14.—Mr. Gladstone, in the House of Commons last night announced the introduction of a Bill in order to enable the dissolution of Parliament to take place next November.

16.—Mr. Gladstone, replying to a question in the House of Commons, said that it might be several days before a reply was received from Russia regarding a certain disputed portion of the Afghan frontier.

Mr. Gladstone also announced the partial renewal of the Crimes' Act in Ireland, and said that the Government was unable to deal with the question of Irish local self-government and the land purchase question.

The Canadian rebellion is collapsing, and the rebels are submitting.

Bombay, May 13.—A special telegram to the *Bombay Gazette*, from London, on Tuesday, says that the agreement between Russia and England is now complete and that it is expected that the Russian Government will ratify the decision of the convention without delay. It is understood that the India council is fully satisfied with the result of the proceedings of the convention. A section of the press professes to be dissatisfied with the arrangement. The *Times* complains that England has apparently surrendered everything to Russia. It has not yet transpired what actual concessions have been made to Russia.

16.—A special telegram to the *Bombay Gazette* says that a serious hitch has occurred in the negotiations with Russia regarding the frontier question, causing much anxiety in political and commercial circles and a fall in the funds. The *Standard* announces that the agreement in regard to the frontier resulting from the conference between Earl Granville and M. de Staal, the Russian Ambassador, is wholly unacceptable to Russia. The same paper also announces that the Czar disapproves of the agreement, and has definitely declined to sanction it. Owing to the unconciliatory attitude of the Czar, further parleyings are going on regarding the matter.

According to a special telegram to the *Times of India*, dated London Friday, the *Standard* states that Russia rejects the frontier proposed in London, and demands a more favourable rectification of it. The *Debats* publishes a similar statement.

Suakin, May 13.—The Bengal Cavalry were yesterday presented by General Graham with a standard captured at Thakool. The General thanked them in the most complimentary terms, and said that he should always remember with pride his connection with such distinguished regiments.

Ottawa, May 13.—General Middleton's force fought an engagement on Monday with the rebels under Riel. The Canadians carried the enemy's rifle pits at the point of the bayonet, and afterwards succeeded in capturing Batoche, where the prisoners in the hands of the Indians were rescued. The enemy lost many killed and wounded, the Canadians only sixteen.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, MAY 18, 1885.

THE LATE REV. K. M. BANERJEE, D. L., C. I. E.

ON MONDAY, the 11th May, there passed away from this earthly scene the spirit of one of the foremost men in Bengal, the last of a goodly band of ingenuous youths, who five and fifty years ago, first unlocked in this country the treasures of western knowledge, and made themselves intellectually rich. Russik Krishna Mullick, Ramgopal Ghose, Dakhinaranjan Mookerjee, Radhanath Shikdar, Gobind Chand Basak, and others have died long ago; and their comrade Krishna Mohan Banerjee, the brightest of that bright band, grown grey in the service of letters and of his country, has now, in his seventy second year, disappeared from the stage of life. As representatives of the nation we deem it our duty on this solemn occasion to offer our humble tribute of admiration of the departed scholar by briefly recounting the leading incidents of his remarkable career.

Krishna Mohan Banerjee was born, in 1813, in a humble dwelling, not far from the premises which now form the local habitation of the Metropolitan College. When he was five years old, the Calcutta School Society was established, and its object was partly to improve the indigenous *Patshalas* of the city, and partly to establish new schools of a better character. Of this Society David Hare was the European Secretary, and Rajah, then Babu, Radha Kanta Deb, the Native Secretary. The Arpooli *Patshala*, which stood, not far from Krishna Mohan's paternal residence, had the advantage of being under the immediete superintendence of David Hare; and it was in this *Patshala* that Krishna Mohan received the elements of his Vernacular education. David Hare, who loved Bengali boys more than any European, soon discovered the nascent intelligence of Krishna Mohan, and took much interest in him, and this lasted as long as he lived. Nor was Krishna Mohan less attached to David Hare; he always regarded the founder of rational English education and his earliest patron with profound gratitude and affection, and when his friend was removed from the world he assisted in the establishment of the Hare Anniversary Meeting, and often paid eloquent tributes to his memory. From the Arpooli *Patshala* Krishna Mohan was admitted into the School Society's English school, which was popularly known under the name of Hare School. The best boys of Hare's School used to be sent by Mr. Hare to the Hindu College to be educated, free of cost, and as Krishna Mohan was one of the best boys in that school, he had the good fortune, in the year 1824, of being transferred to that College.

While Krishna Mohan was prosecuting his studies in the Hindu College, there was one master who exerted a great influence on the students of the higher classes. This gentleman was a gifted Eurasian of the name of Henry Louis Vivian Derozio, who published in 1828, "The Fakeer of Jungheera and other poems." Endowed with considerable mental power, fluent of speech, well-read in English literature, possessing great enthusiasm as a teacher, affable in manners, proud of India, which he regarded as his fatherland, and taking interest in the improvement and regeneration of the Natives, he soon drew to himself all the bright students of the Hindu College. He discussed with them familiarly all sorts of subjects, political, social, literary, moral and religious. Unfortunately he had no faith in religion of any kind, and while he thus destroyed the faith of his pupils in their ancestral religion, he had no other religion to place before them in its stead. The late lamented Peary Chand Mitter tells us in his interesting "Biographical Sketch of David Hare" that the young men who eagerly sought the society of Derozio were Krishna Mohan Banerjee, Russik Krishna Mullick, Dakhinarunjun Mookerjea, Ramgopal Ghose, Madhubchunder Mullick, Ram Tonoo Lahiri, Mohesh Chunder Ghose, Shibchunder Deb, Hara Chunder Ghose, Radhanath Shikdar, Gobindchand Bysak and Amritalal Mitter. But it is not to be supposed that all these persons fully imbibed the free-thinking principles of Derozio. Of the young men—young fifty-five years ago—mentioned above there were four who were the leading spirits, and who led the vanguard of reform. These were Krishna Mohan Banerjee, Russikkrishna Mullick, Ramgopal Ghose, and Dakhinarunjun Mookerjee. They got up a debating society called the Academic Association, where they discoursed on all sorts of subjects. Baboo Peary Chand Mitter, who, while a boy, was a frequent visitor at the meetings of this Association, has left us his impressions of the oratorical powers of its leading spirits, and we think from our experience of those gentlemen in after times that his impressions were on the whole correct. Russick was not naturally eloquent, but very thoughtful and philosophical. Ramgopal had the advanaage of a graceful delivery, embellished with histrionic accompaniments. Dakhinarunjun was naturally eloquent, enthusiastic, impassioned and even vehement. Krishna Mohan was the readiest and most effective speaker, unaffected in manner, calm and unimpassioned, though sometimes bursting into vehemence, and always [illegible] The teaching of Mr. Derozio produced a great convulsion in Hindu Society. [illegible] down with Hinduism!" "Down with Hinduism," Mitra, "was the cry" says Babu Peary Chand [illegible] and the elders among this youthful band, [illegible] thods for their at once adopted summary met[illegible] expelled punishment. Krishnamohun was from his paternal home, and others removed from College. The Managing Committee of the Hindoo College were alarmed, and Derozio was dismissed from his post in 1831.

But though Derozio was dismissed from the College, the effects of his teaching were not to be so easily got rid of. Krishna Mohan, after leaving College, became a teacher in Hare School. Full of energy, he set up a weekly newspaper in the English language, called the "Enquirer," in which he denounced Hinduism, week after week, and fiercely attacked the orthodox party. Endowed with no ordinary measure of humour and a keen sense of the ludicrous, Krishna Mohan published in English a drama which was called "The Persecuted," in which he attacked the Dharma Sabha which he nicknamed *Gurrum* Sabha, calling its President Rajah Radhakanta Deb *Gadhakanta*, and one Bipradas, *Beef-fed-ass*. Nor were Dakhinaranjun Mukerjee and his colleague Russick Krishna Mullick silent. They started a paper in Bengali called the *Jnananveshana* in which they attacked Hinduism, and advocated reform.

It was at this time that Dr. Duff appeared on the scene. He saw the unsettled state of the educated young men with regard to religion, and took advantage of it. He delivered lectures on Christianity in his house which was in Col-

lege Square, and drew the young men together by his eloquence. Mohesh Chunder Ghose adopted the Christian faith, and not long after, in 1832, Krishna Mohan Banerjee was baptzied by Dr. Duff.

For sometime after his baptism, Krishna Mohan was employed as a teacher in the Church Mission School in Amherst Street, from which place he went to Bishop's College to study theology. After passing through a regular course of theological studies, he was successively ordained Deacon and Priest of the Church of England. In 1839 or 1840 a Church was built for him at Cornwallis Square, which still goes by the name of "Kisto Bando's" Church. It was while he was minister of this Church that he carried on most of his literary labours. He wrote an Essay on Native Female Education to compete for a prize which was offered by Captain Jameson of Baroda. He edited the well-known serial work, *Encyclopædia Bengalensis*, consisting of several volumes; published a volume of Sermons in Bengali, and started a weekly newspaper in English, called the *Bengal Spectator*, to which Babu Ramgopal Ghose was a frequent contributor.

From the pastoral charge of Cornwallis Square Church he was transferred to Bishop's College of which he became a Professor. Here he laboured for 15 years, after which he was named for the second chaplaincy in St. Paul's Cathedral, and a European junior was named above him. He felt much this indignity offered to his nationality, and in disgust retired from service on pension. While he was Professor in Bishop's College he published his greatest work—*Dialogues on Hindu Philosophy*. Since his retirement he wrote the *Aryan Witness*, a book which has not attracted that attention which it deserves. Besides these books he published several Lectures, Pamphlets and Tracts. In 1876 the University of Calcutta conferred on him the honorary degree of Doctor in Law, and in the beginning of the present year Her Majesty made him a Companion of the Order of the Indian Empire.

Dr. Banerjee knew ten languages—Bengali, English, Sanskrit, Latin, Greek, Hebrew, Persian, Urdu, Hindi, and Uriya. Of his linguistic acquirements he made good use as examiner of Fort William College, and of the Calcutta University. His scholarship was more comprehensive than deep, and his information in all sorts of subjects extensive. His intellect was of a high order, not of the philosophical kind, but clear, luminous and practical. He was a man of great force of character and of strong individuality. Though somewhat cold to strangers, he was an agreeable companion; and owing to his keen perception of the ludicrous he was often humorous. As a clergyman he was faithful in the discharge of his duties, and sincerely pious, though his piety had nothing of the puritanical element in it. As a convert to Christianity he was always zealous in the defence of the religion which he had embraced, and endeavoured in his writings to recommend it to his countrymen, and in his earlier days, in the height of his neophyte zeal, was very intolerant, but with the advance of age and in the maturity of his years he evinced a praise-worthy tolerance and sympathy. As a citizen and Municipal Commissioner he rendered good service to the City Corporation; and as President of the Indian Association he endeavoured to do what he thought would promote the political and social amelioration of his countrymen. He has left behind him two daughters, Mrs. Wheeler and Mrs. Stuart, and six grand-children.

THE BENGAL AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

As a Member of the Supreme Executive Council Sir Rivers Thompson was a zealous advocate for an agricultural bureau for Bengal. When Lord Ripon restored the Etcetera Department which had been abolished by his predecessor, it was placed under Sir Rivers with Mr. Buck as his Secretary. The latter found no difficulty in converting his chief to his views. Mr. Buck had not only failed to persuade Sir Ashley Eden of the necessity of establishing an Agricultural Department for Bengal, but had received merciless exposure and castigation at his hands. The arguments which Sir Ashley Eden had brought forward to justify his refusal to give effect to the recommendation of the Famine Commission about the creation of an agricultural bureau in his Province were so convincing that the Government of India did not think fit to reopen the question so long as he occupied the Belvedere *musnad*. Sir Rivers Thompson on coming to Bengal, took up the subject with great earnestness and submitted his plan to the Supreme Government for the creation of an Agricultural Department in this province. His plan has not been sanctioned in its entirety. Sir Rivers had recommended a general field survey of Bengal, and the establishment of a state of detailed village records, but the Secretary of State did not sanction an undertaking of such magnitude. Then, while approving the prosecution of surveys and records of right in Government and Wards' Estates, Lord Kimberley desired that before any active steps were taken to establish a separate agency to supervise such surveys, or to create an agency to maintain their results, he might be furnished with detailed information as to the mode of carrying these operations into effect. His Lordship, however, admitted the importance of providing the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal with the requisite agency for advising him on all matters relating to agriculture and statistics. In accordance with the views of the Secretary of State, the Government of India has sanctioned the appointment for two years of a special officer to advise the Lieutenant-Governor in all matters relating to agriculture and statistics, and the Bengal Agricultural Department has been launched into existence from the beginning of the current year.

Though a limited sanction has thus been accorded to Sir Rivers Thompson's proposals, he is determined to make the best of his opportunity. He has now laid down instructions for the guidance of his Director of Agricultural Research and Agricultural Improvements. Under the first head the Lieutenant-Governor lays special stress on the necessity of providing a local agency for the ascertainment of agricultural facts and for the maintenance of village records of rights. It is announced that the experimental survey, under Chapter X of the Tenancy Act, shall be carried out by professional agency, and the district of Mozufferpore has been selected for the experiment. The Director is told to come to an agreement with the Surveyor-General regarding the unit of area to be adopted as the basis of the proposed Cadastral Survey, and the system of boundary marks best adopted to secure the permanency of results. He has also directed the Director to frame a scheme for preparing the record of rights and for maintaining it when prepared. But before finally determining the method of preparing the record of rights and the system of local agency to maintain them when completed, the Director is instructed to proceed to the North-Western Provinces in order to ascertain what is the most approved practice in those districts where cadastral work, similar to that contemplated in Behar, is now in progress. He will then report how far the North-West system is applicable to Behar, and, if modifications be necessary, state the precise character of the modifications he would introduce. When these preliminary points have been settled the Director will select the village agency to maintain the record. The Resolution of the Bengal Government says:—"It has been suggested to the Lieutenant-Governor that this work of educating the village agency should be taken in hand at once, on the ground that the work of survey and recording rights should not be commenced until the agency to maintain the records had been established. Patwaris, it is said, can only be taught their work by actual practice. On full consideration, however, of the information before him as to the acquirements of the available agency, Sir Rivers Thompson is satisfied, that all that is needed is careful selection of Patwaris and their training in field surveying. This will be taught them on the ground and in their own villages as the survey progresses. The future training of Patwaris on some such plan as has been found useful in other Provinces, will be a matter for later consideration, but to begin with, what is needed is instruction to Patwaris in surveying, and this cannot be imparted to them till the survey begins." In Bengal, as in the North-Western Provinces, the maintenance of village records will be one of the principal duties of the Agricultural Department, and the accuracy of the records will depend entirely on the efficiency and honesty of the Patwari staff. Since the establishment of the North-West Agricultural Department ten years ago, a good deal has been done to improve the Patwaris; but the efforts of Mr. Buck and his successors in this direction have not been attended with much success. Mr. Buck prepared an elaborate Code for the training of Patwaris, which is facetiously called "Buck's Institutes;" but it is notorious that the Code has not done any appreciable good. Mr. Buck, of course, believes that his Code has achieved wonders and that there has been a great improvement in the village records. But even his most ardent admirer, the *Pioneer*, is driven by the very force of facts to ask him whether he has not heard "whispers of such things as papers written up wholesale by hired agents, or Patwaris, who live at a distance of 15 or 20 miles from the circles nominally under their charge." Mr. Benett, in his Report on the North-West Department of Agriculture for 1881-82, stated in plain terms that in some districts the Patwaris' papers were frequently so inaccurate as to be nearly useless. Even in the model North-Western Provinces the Patwari's papers are generally drawn up in his house at some distance from the village which they concern. The Patwaris are much the same in all parts of the country. Take the temporarily-settled province of Orissa. Mr. Beadon, Collector of Balasore, in his report for 1881-82, wrote:—"Patwaris' papers have been pronounced absolutely useless, and opinions are divided as to the possibility of making any good out of them by legislation." The Collector of Puri, in his report for the same year, observed:—"It is clear that the Patwaris as Patwaris are practically useless. Generally, the remuneration they get is not sufficient to enable them to devote their whole time and attention to the duties of village accountant. They must do something else to supplement their incomes." The Collector of Cuttack pointed out that except in carrying out orders, "it is impossible to get work from the Patwaris, and they might as well not have existed from the time of settlement." To ensure the maintenance of correct and trustworthy agricultural records is one of the principal duties of Provincial Agricultural Departments; but when Mr. Buck and his successors have failed to secure its satisfactory performance in the North-Western Provinces, it would be sheer waste of time, labour and money to try the same thing in Bengal. As for the ascertainment of agricultural facts, let us see how the work is being done by the special agency which Sir John Strachey created in the North-Western Provinces ten years ago. Mr. Wright, in his report on the North-West Department of Agriculture, for 1880-81, wrote:—"The very imperfect performance by the Department of what would appear to be one of its principal duties, the collection of Agricultural Statistics, cannot fail to be a matter of regret." We commend this frank admission to Sir Rivers Thompson.

So much for Agricultural Research. As regards the subject of Agricultural Improvement, the Lieutenant-Governor holds that it is neither possible nor expedient to lay down any exact rules. His Honor says:—"The Director's functions in relation to this branch of his official duties must, for some time to come, be limited to observation and experiment. It can only be said that every thing bearing on agricultural prosperity and decadence is within his province, and supplies subject-matter for his suggestions." In so far as the improvement of Agriculture is concerned, the North West Agricultural Department has not, during the ten years of its existence, been able to do any thing. The costly experiments which have been conducted under its auspices at Cawnpore have so far had no effect upon the agriculture of the country. It is all very well to say that the conservatism of the Indian cultivator stands in the way of his adopting improved methods of tillage. But nothing could be a greater mistake than this. It is very easy indeed for an enthusiastic theoretic agricultural reformer, sitting at his writing-

table, to imagine the introduction of improved implements and a new distribution of crops. It does not cost him any thing to say that Indian farmers ought to use such and such implements and such and such crops; that they ought to spread on their fields an enormous quantity of the dropping of their cattle; that the primitive country ploughs ought to disappear before improved modern ploughs; and that not to let land lie fallow is against the rules of scientific agriculture. We would earnestly advise these philanthropists, whom we admire so much for their good intentions and earnestness, to leave writing for a few weeks and make a careful study of the condition of the Indian cultivator. The ryot cannot afford to try costly experiments. He cannot use the dropping of his cattle for manuring his land as he must reserve his cowdung for cooking his food. The Indian ryot has little or nothing to learn from Cirencester, and the sooner the would-be reformers of Indian agriculture realize this fact, the better for the interests of the country. When he is satisfied that the introduction of any new implement or new crop will pay, he does not hesitate to adopt it. Look at the extension of jute cultivation in Bengal, and the introduction of the Bihea Sugar Mill in the Upper Provinces. Sir Rivers Thompson regrets that the nature of the limited sanction accorded to his proposals in regard to an agricultural Department in Bengal renders it undesirable *to spend any money on experimental farms supported by the Government*; but he thinks that much good may be done if the Managers of Wards' Estates, in which such farms may now be maintained, will in future consult the Agricultural Department. We must strongly protest, as we have always done, against the money of the wards being wasted in experiments. It is totally against all principle of honest fiduciary duty to devote trust funds to experiments, and in regard to the money of the ward the State stands in the position of a trustee, and nothing should be done which might be construed into a breach of trust.

To prove how grievous the mischief is we appeal to the Maharaja of Durbhanga to give an abstract of the enormous losses which he sustained during the time that his estate was in the custody of the Court of Wards. Lacs over lacs were spent on his Kharakpur property and he has advertised to sell it because it does not pay. How many poor orphans will suffer from this rage for improvement it would not be difficult to guess; but *cui bono*, our *Dharmavatars* are now labouring under the fever heat of improvement.

DUKA'S LIFE OF CSOMA DE KOROS.*

FOUR-and-fifty years ago, a poor traveller unknown and friendless, descended from the heights of the Himalayas, bringing with him the materials of a grammar and a dictionary which have since afforded the key to what had till then been all but totally unknown to the civilised world—the language and literature of Tibet. That traveller was Alexander Csoma. Born in the village of Koros (April 14, 1784,) he received his early training in the gymnasium of his native village, and subsequently finished his academic course in the University of Gottingen. History, geography, and philology were the most favored subjects of his studies, and early in his academic career, it is recorded, he made a vow, along with two of his fellow pupils, to undertake a scientific journey, with the object of discovering in Central Asia some traces of the origin of his race. Ten years afterwards, when under pupilage to Professor Eichhorn, the celebrated historian and oriental scholar, the idea of this scientific journey revived, and Csoma studied the Arabic language under the learned Professor, expressly with a view to prepare himself for his self-imposed task. He had then gone through the usual academic course of classics, mathematics and the French and German languages, and was well versed in history. He had also acquired some knowledge of the English language. In 1818, he returned home, and after studying the Sclavonian language, for a short time, he started on his projected journey in February 1819. Doubtful of the safety of the direct route across Asia from his native place, and, wishing also to consult some Arabic works relating to the history of the Ugars, he spent sometime at Constantinople. Travelling then through Egypt, Syria, Persia and Afghanistan he came to Lahore. Here Generals Allard and Ventura, two officers in the army of Maharajah Ranjit Singh, took him by the hand, and helped him on in his way to Kashmir. His pecuniary resources were extremely limited, and he performed the greater part of his journey on foot, generally in the garb of an Armenian traveller. From Lahore he travelled *via* Amritsar and Jammu to Kashmir, and thence on to Leh, the capital of Ladak, which he visited again on two successive occasions. In the Dras Valley, he first became acquainted with Mr. Moorcroft, and, in course of conversation with him, formed the idea of acquiring a knowledge of the Tibetan language. After some months spent in Ladak and Kashmir, he started for Tibet, under the advice and with the aid of Mr. Moorcroft, and settled at the monastery of Yangla in the provice of Zanskar. Determined to thoroughly accomplish his new project, he obtained the help of a Lama, and devoted himself entirely to his study. The privations he had to undergo here were immense; for more than four months he was confined, along with his teacher and an attendant, in an apartment nine feet square, precluded from stirring out, owing to the country around being covered with snow. The only occupation to which he could devote himself was reading, and he read from morning till night, "sitting enveloped in a sheep-skin cloak, with his arms folded, and without a fire. After dark he was without a light; the ground forming his bed, and the walls of the building, his protection against the rigours of the climate." After sixteen months' sojourn at this inhospitable place, from June 20, 1823 to October 22, 1824, he came to Subathu on the Himalayas. At that time, as now, the fear of Russia was most prominent in the minds of our English rulers, and he was suspected of being a Russian spy, and accordingly put under restraint. Luckily he had with him certain letters from Messrs Moorcroft and Trebeck, which helped him greatly in explaining his motives and the nature of his mission, and the Government was perfectly satisfied with his explanation. The Government went further; it sanctioned an allowance of Rs 50 per month to enable him to further prosecute his studies and his researches. Thus aided, his spirits revived, and notwithstanding the vivid memory he cherished of the frightful privations he had undergone, he retraced his steps back to Zanskar, and dwelt in the monastery of Pukdal from August 1825 to November 1826, then at Kanum in upper Besarh, from August 1827 to October 1830. He came to Calcutta in April 1831, and made over to Government the literary treasures he had brought with him, as a return for the pecuniary aid he had derived from it. Dr. H. H. Wilson was then the Secretary of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, and he received the traveller with the most cordial welcome. The Society lodged him in their house, and offered him a monthly allowance of fifty rupees. The Government sanctioned the cost of printing his grammar and dictionary, and increased his allowance by fifty rupees. The task of carrying his two books through the press took up nearly four years; but, in the mean time, he also occupied himself in preparing for the Society analyses of the grand collection of Tibetan scriptures known under the names of Kahgyur and Stangyur, zylographs of which had then been just discovered and obtained by Mr. Hodgson. These analyses as also several minor papers, were published in the Journal of the Society. In 1835 Csoma left Calcutta to travel in the Northern districts of Bengal with a view to acquire thorough mastery in the Sanskrit, the Bengali, and the Eastern Hindi languages. He spent his time principally at Maldah and Tettalea, near Jalpiguri. On his return to Calcutta in 1837, he was appointed librarian of the Asiatic Society, which appointment he held up to the close of 1841. At this time he felt a desire to visit Lahssa and study the Eastern dialects of the Tibetan language. In February, he started on this journey, and fell a victim to malarious fever at Darjeeling on April 11, 1842.

The brief narrative we have attempted here, will show how enthusiastic he was in his literary pursuits. And the high measure of success which he attained therein is attested by the valuable literary monuments he has left behind him. He was of robust make, and no amount of privation or labour could damp his spirit. At the same time he was of very abstemious habits—living for months at a cost of not more than four rupees a month. Of the history of his life, very little was known except what he had recorded in the report which he forwarded to Government in 1825. We welcome, therefore, the work which has given us occasion to write this note. A Hungarian by birth and a devoted admirer of the zealous traveller and scholar, Dr. Duka has done a valuable service to biographical literature by the memorial he has published. He has been at great pains to collect all available materials. And, bearing in mind the facts that Csoma was a poor student from an obscure village, from the Bæotia of Hungary, and spent his life in travelling in out-of-the-way places, never mixing in society, and recording nothing of his life, Dr. Duka has been fairly successful in his endeavours. His work, may not be a model of biography, but it does ample justice to the life of a remarkable man of whom his country may well be proud.

* Life and Works of Alexander Csoma de Koros. A Biography compiled chiefly from hitherto unpublished Data. By Theodore Duka, M. D., London, 1885.

THE CORPORATOR'S LAST.

THE Calcutta Commissioners have at last solved the problem of raising the wind without further taxation. The Octroi Commission did them wrong. They had hoped to get hold of half a dozen of new taxes, and they were left in the lurch in a mire of petroleum and tobacco. The Octroi was what they most wanted; but the feeling against it was so violent, notwithstanding the powerful advocacy of Messrs. Reynolds and Nolan, that they had to abandon it, very much in the same spirit in which Master Renard denounced the acidity of inaccessible grapes. Some of the minor projects recommended by the Octroi Commission had likewise to be abandoned, chiefly because they would not be very productive. The combined efforts of the Commissioners were, therefore, directed towards getting hold of a larger number of tax-payers than what they now had to deal with. In other words, they wanted the Suburbs to be added to their jurisdiction, so that they may have a good hank of the Suburban cake for the benefit of Urban extravagance. The Suburbs now yield about five lakhs of rupees, and the power of disbursing that sum the Commissioners could not but look upon with avidity. The Chairman, as a matter of course, was most eloquent in support of this project. He did not, it is true, resort to the parable of Theseus and Ariadne, but he worked out with more than Dantesque subtlety the horrors of preventible mortality. The idea was not original; it was got from Mr. Cunningham, who had so deftly manipulated it in his lecture, and in the notorious memorials, which preceded it; but the artistic tact with which it was set forth by the Chairman was not the less remarkable. He remembered what arduous task he had in repelling the charge of the cholera mortality of March and April of 1884, and tried to bring the same tactics to bear upon the Corporators; and sooth to say it had the most salutary effect. Eighteen of them at once succumbed. Mr. Duff Bruce, a thorough business man, too clever to be caught by cant, was the first to evince any recusancy. With great apparent simplicity, but cruel keenness, he inquired what would be the effect of the proposed amalgamation on taxation—"whether taxation in Calcutta would be reduced, or that in the Suburbs increased." This was the real question at issue, and it was just what could not be readily met. A facile, open, categorical answer to such a question would have totally destroyed the dreadful picture of mortality which had been so carefully got up; so the Chairman, in the most approved Parliamentary fashion, neatly shunted Mr. Bruce out of the line with a "presume" and a "perhaps," which at once meant every thing and nothing. Babu Surendranath Banerjee was much more outspoken, and roundly

condemned the scheme. His amendment was to the effect "that the amalgamation of Calcutta and the Suburbs under one Municipal administration, would lead to administrative inconvenience; stop the steady improvement of the town; throw the burden of the Municipal improvement of the Suburbs upon the rate-payers of the town; and defeat the principle of local self-government, which aims to utilise local interests and local experience for the administration of local affairs." To judge from the published proceedings—very meagre to say the least—none could face the poser, and trimming was the only resource left. Babu Kalinath Mitra warded the blow by a second amendment to the effect "that it was desirable that certain portions of the Suburbs should be included within Calcutta, and that a Sub-Committee be appointed to select such portions to be taken over." This in plain English meant, let us take the most paying portions, and leave the poorer classes to their fate, and as this was exactly what was wanted, the Chairman at once accepted it, and the motion was carried. This move was what the officers of Government had long desired, and it was not remarkable, therefore, that the English Corporators and their Fridays accepted it with a view to do honor to the Section 28 Commission. The question to be solved is who are to benefit by the move—the Corporators, or the Suburban rate-payers? There is no doubt that the conservancy of the Suburbs is sadly defective in every way; but this is owing, not to the failure of the Suburban Commissioners to do their duty, but to want of funds. They did all they could; and could do no more, because they had no more money. Now, to do more, the money must be provided; and if the 3000 persons who die of preventible diseases and in whose interest the Chairman was so eloquent, the money must be provided by the Calcutta Municipality which takes the duty upon itself, or the suburban people should be taxed more heavily than at present. In the former case a grave injustice would be done to the Calcutta people who are already suffering from inadequate conservancy, due solely to want of funds. The Octroi Commission was got up expressly with a view to suggest ways and means, and the only means which the Corporators have accepted will, instead of bringing more money, add to their responsibilities. Of the injustice to be done to the people of Calcutta by diverting a part of their contributions to the benefit of their neighbours, we need not talk. Corporations never suffer from any such compunctious visitings of conscience. On the other hand the Suburban Corporation will not gain, because the most productive parts of its jurisdiction—all the big houses which pay the largest amount of tax—will be taken from it, and it will be left to starve on the pittance available from huts and small dwellings only. The conservancy of the rejected portion will suffer heavily, and the mortality from preventible causes will increase proportionately, and not decrease. It is impossible that the Chairman did not perceive this, and the tears he shed, therefore, on the untimely deaths of the poor people of the Suburbs must have been, we are compelled to say, somewhat dramatic. It is obvious from this view of the case that both the parties concerned must suffer. It would be an insult to the Commissioners to suppose that they deliberately desire to do any wrong, but they are mistaken, and what they propose to do, is sure to lead to irremediable mischief. It is certain that on taking the selected portions of the Suburbs the law about the various Calcutta taxes must be made to bear on them, and so, instead of a total of 7½ per cent. house-tax, they must be made to contribute at 10 per cent. house tax, besides the license tax, the horse tax, the lighting rate, the water rate and other odds and ends altogether to the tune of about 18 to 20 per cent. and the Calcutta Corporation will benefit proportionately. The increase will not be so large as to justify the undertaking of covered sewers for drainage, or for any very extensive works, so that the responsibility will be slight and the gain pretty considerable. It is against all principles of Corporations to listen to claims of a community to the entire contributions made by it, and seeing that the people in the northern division of Calcutta after having contributed to the Municipal funds equally with their southern neighbours have not, in the course of the last twenty-two years, yet succeeded in getting their division drained, sewered, and watered in the same way as the southern division, and miles over miles of lanes remain without drainage, without water, and without gas light, we may rest assured that the Suburban rate-payers with less influence will fare no better. Thus they will have to pay much more than at present without getting any corresponding benefit, and their contributions will go to raise the wind for which the Octroi Commission was appointed.

REVIEW.

*Hem Chandra Banerjee's Poems.**

THE Bengali reading public must feel obliged to Babu Jogesh Chandra Banerjee for the first collected edition of the works of the foremost of our living poets. This is perhaps the first instance in Bengal in which the author is not his own publisher, and we hail it as a good sign.

If we were asked to say in which direction is it that Bengal has made most marked progress under British rule, we should certainly point to Bengali Literature. In public discussions on the benefits of British rule, the progress in this direction is generally lost sight of, chiefly because, we presume, those engaged in the discussion, whether European or native, possess little or no acquaintance with Vernacular Literature. In this respect, the Anglicised educated natives are as bad as the Europeans. We believe that there are many among them who are as incapable of understanding a book written in cultivated Bengali as any Englishman. Nevertheless the fact remains that the most powerful force which is at this moment remodelling Bengali Society is the influence of Bengali Literature. It is perhaps not felt in the highest circles of native society, where, we believe, it is all but unknown, but that circumstance does not render it either less real or less potent.

The British Government of Bengal has never done anything directly to bring about this result. It has never been distinguished for its encouragement of Vernacular Literature. Vernacular Literature may be said to have grown up irrespective of Government. The Serampore Missionaries, who set up the first Bengali printing press, did more for Bengali Literature than all other Englishmen in India put together, But the great active agents in this respect have been, on the one hand, the spread of English education, and on the other the revival of Sanskrit Literature. Most of the more distinguished Bengali writers are men who, to a thorough acquintance with western Literature and science, add at least a respectable acquaintance with the ancient Sanskrit Literature.

We by no means wish to impress that, before the establishment of British rule in Bengal, there did not exist such a thing as a Bengali Literature. There already existed a literature which at least in one of its departments viz., lyric poetery, was as rich as that of any nation in the world. But between Bengali Literature as it then was, and as it now is there can be no comparison. Though still ages behind the great literatures of the West in copiousness, it has already given birth in several departments of thought to productions which will bear comparison with any in the whole literature of the world.

Babu Hem Chandra Banerjee is one of the most distinguished leaders of this movement, which is destined to have far greater influence on the future of the country, than all the Self-Government Bills and Tenancy Acts which the Legislature may have to grind for years to come. He entered early in the field, and has for nearly a quarter of a century, worked indefatigably in the great cause, notwithstanding the worry and vexatiousness of a lawyer's life, in which he has attained considerable success. The Government, which often delights to honor the unworthy, has no recognition to bestow on an unselfish toiler for the public good like Hem Chandra Banerjee. The Indian Government has never been distinguished for such breadth of view as led an English Ministry to confer a baronetcy on a Scott, and a peerage on a Tennyson.

It is impracticable for us to give a full idea of the varied contents of the volume before us within the compass of this review. There is scarcely any department of poetry which Babu Hem Chandra has not tried, and he has tried nothing in which he has not achieved success. An exhaustive review is, however, the less necessary, as we believe that among our Bengali readers there are none who are not more or less acquainted with his works, except those who entertain the same contempt for native-made poetry as they do for native-made boots. We shall only briefly invite the attention of such of our readers as may not find time to go though the whole volume, to such of its contents as are calculated to give the most vivid idea of the poet's power and genius.

It will not be disputed, we believe, that *Vritra Samhar* has to be pronounced Babu Hem Chandra Banerjee's greatest work. Whether it is not the greatest poem in the Bengali language is a question which we shall not discuss. We shall content ourselves by saying, that some prefer it to the *Megha Nada Badha*, by M. S. Datta—a work to which the same distinguished place has occasionally been assigned, and by no less an authority than Mr. R. C. Dutt. The subject of the poem is the Vedic legend of Vritra slain by Indra. Originally Vritra represented the forces of nature which obstruct rain, as Indra represented the forces of nature which caused rain to fall. In course of time, they became metamorphosed into Demon and God respectively, striving for the mastery of heaven, and the Puranas and Itihasas contain many a legend describing the great battle in which Vritra fell. In Babu Hem Chundra Bannerjee's hand, it forms the subject of a poem which may fairly challenge comparison with the Paradise Lost.

The *Dasa Mahavidya* ranks next. It is a grand attempt—unfortunately incomplete—to explain a Hindu legend on a cosmical basis, and to expound the author's cosmogony by the help of the Hindu legend. A writer in the *Calcutta Review* called it "the Gospel of the nineteeth Century." We doubt very much indeed whether the nineteenth century will feel inclined to accept a Bengali poem as its Gospel. We have a sort of suspicion that the nineteenth century preaches its Gospel from the mouth of breech-loaders and Krupp guns. His poem, is nevertheless, a remarkable production. Among the other longer poems are *Chinta Tarangini*, *Virabhu*, *Asa Kanana*, an allegory, *Nalini Basanta*, an adaptation from the *Tempest*, and *Chhayamayi*, an adaptation from the *Divina Comedia* of Dante. In *Chhayamayi*, the poet by no means slavishly adheres to the Italian poet, but strikes out a new path for himself; and the *Chhayamayi* is in reality a poem of great originality and power.

We believe, Babu Hem Chandra Banerji's minor poems, chiefly lyric, are the most popular of all his works. Their merit is very unequal; but the best of them are held by many to be among the best in the language. This is saying a great deal, as Bengali literature is specially rich in lyric poetry which reaches from Vidyapati, the oldest Bengali poet, to Rabindra Nath Tagore, the youngest. Among the minor poems are also adaptations from English poetry, which have been rendered with remarkable cleverness and care, and some humourous and satirical pieces, the most vigorous of which is "*Bajimat.*" *Siva's Arati*, rendered from the Sanskrit is highly musical.

*The complete Works of Hem chundra Banerjee, Published by Jogesh chunder Banerjee, Canning Library, Calcutta, 1291.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES

HIS HONOR the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal returned to Calcutta on Tuesday at about 12-30 P. M. with his Secretaries, and intends to stop in town for a fortnight. It is said he has come to give effect to the retrenchment policy of the Supreme Government, and to consider matters connected with the Kidderpore Docks. The theory of river defences in view of the approaching war is broached by some, but these are mere surmises and do not seem to possess even much plausibility about them.

THE LATEST telegrams show that the Czar is not satisfied with the concessions made by the British Cabinet; he wants even a larger hank of the Afghan cake than what has been agreed to. And, after the recent break-down of the vote of censure in the House of Commons, who can say that he will not succeed? He finds holding out paying, and he holds out; but he should remember that the game of holding out too often repeated may turn against him at last. The House of Commons does not now represent the feeling of the English nation.

AT THE last meeting of the Trustees of the Indian Museum Maharaja Sir Jotendramohun Tagore was elected Chairman of the Board of Trustees for the current year. The Maharaja was so elected on a former occasion. The honor

is, we need scarcely say, well deserved and will be noticed with great satisfaction by the native community.

THE OCTROI Scheme for Calcutta has totally collapsed. At a former meeting the Municipal Commissioners resolved that they have nothing to do with the Octroi pure and simple, and at their last meeting recorded their opinion that the scheme for an indirect tax on articles of consumption set forth in the Octroi Committee's Report would cause much discontent among retail vendors and should, therefore, be set aside. A proposal was made to make an exception in the case of tobacco, and the Chairman moved that a small license fee, varying according to the asssessment of the shop, be imposed for its retail vend in addition to the ordinary trade license. The proposal met with almost unanimous opposition, and was lost.

WE HAVE received the first number of the *Indian Agricultural Gazette*. It has been neatly got up, and promises to be a useful publication. We see it has secured contributions from persons whose special knowledge in agricultural matters will enable them to enrich its pages with valuable papers. We doubt very much, however, whether their papers will do much good to the Indian cultivator. The misery of the Indian ryot cannot be removed by journalistic effusions. The cause of this "misery" is not to be found in the ignorance of European appliances, but in the harassing taxation to which the ryot is subjected under the British system of administration. Be that as it may, we heartily wish the journal the success which it richly deserves.

WE HEAR that Mr. Cunningham has now a new birch in vinegar for the special behoof of the unfortunate Municipal Corporation of Calcutta. He has employed a medical gentleman to pry into all the unsavoury places of the town and to get up a report which will demonstrate the utter untrustworthiness of the Reports published from time to time by Messrs. Harrison and Kimber and Dr. O'Brien on the sanitary condition of the Metropolis. This is deemed essential for the credit of the notorious memorialists for the Section 28 Commission, particularly as the Commission has so sadly broken down. It is said that a book is in circulation for subscriptions in aid of the new enquiry, and many of the leading memorialists have put down a hundred rupees each against their names. It is a pity that Dr. Payne is not here now to come to the rescue. His scientific reputation and inveterate antipathy against his former masters who cut down his *talab* would have materially helped the rhetoric of Mr. Cunningham in getting up a brilliant coruscation of literary and sensational rockets. We have heard that the Health Society has taken the job in hand during the absence of Mr. Cunningham.

AT THE LAST meeting of the Legislative Council at Simla, Mr. Hope introduced the Bill amending the Local Authorities Loan Act, 1879, and moved that it be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the Hon'ble Mr. Ilbert, Sir Steuart Bayley and the Mover.

WE HAVE been informed that Babu Isan Chandra Bose, M. A. Assistant Accountant General, Bengal, has subscribed Rs. 500 in aid of the Ripon Professorship Fund, in Dr. Sircar's Science Association.

A GREAT critic has remarked that versification in a dead language is like an exotic, far-fetched, costly, sickly and unprofitable. A new Sanskrit epic by Pandit Ramnath Tarkaratna, entitled "Vasudevavijaya," forms no exception to the above remark. The Vasudevavijaya imitates the solemn and sonorous style of Magha; but the difference between the old and the modern Sanskrit epics is as great as between the "Paradise Regained' and the Messiah," or as between the "Meghanadhabadha" and the "Palasir Yuddha." The shell is there, but the yolk is wanting. There is enough of the rind, but no trace of the kernel is visible. We have all the imposing paraphernalia of a wedding—the priest, the barber, the nuptial presents, but the bride is nowhere to be found. But we owe it to the author to acknowledge the skill with which he has erected the superstructure of an epic. His verses flow smoothly, and have the undoubted merit of perspicuity and chasteness to recommend them, and though his conception is not distinguished for its originality, his ideas, such as they are, are arranged with considerable lucidity and method, so that the different parts of the story do not jar with each other; and they are connected with their environments with a degree of appropriateness, which remarkably sustains the interest of the whole piece. The mastery of the author over Sanskrit is marvellous, and his power of description is of no mean order.

THE FOLLOWING extract from a letter of Sir Charles Aitchison to Lord Ripon, which the noble Lord read at a dinner party of the City Liberal Club, will be read by many of our readers with great interest at the present time: "Anyhow if she (that is Russia) reckons on disloyalty in this part of India, she is sadly mistaken. Her threatened advance has called forth spontaneous outbursts of loyalty and offers of service from prince and gentleman and peasant, for which, loyal to the core as I know Punjab to be, I was hardly prepared. Within the last fortnight, I have had offers of service from Sikhs and Mahomedans, especially Sikhs. Patiala, Bahawalpur, and all the chiefs of note have placed their treasuries and their contingents at our disposal. Many retired officers covered with medals won in our wars, have come to see me, and, too old to serve in person, have put their swords at my feet and offered their sons in their stead. With native gentlemen there is the same spirit. The country is thoroughly loyal."

THE QUESTION of native volunteering, says the *Pioneer*, will come up for consideration at Simla almost immediately. We have heard a rumour that the Government of India is in favor of the native volunteer movement. Before passing a resolution on the subject, the Government of India intend, we understand, to invite the opinion of public bodies in the matter.

THE number of suits which were tried last year in the Calcutta Small Cause Court was 32,875. The value of property in litigation increased from Rs. 19,89,465 in the previous year to Rs. 22,47,816. The total receipts amounted to Rs. 3,24,516, and the charges to Rs. 2,11,940. Thus there is a saving of Rs. 1,12,576. All these figures show conclusively that the Court has secured a large amount of confidence of the people. As the business of the Court is increasing every year, and as the finances are in a flourishing condition, an additional judge should certainly be appointed to meet increasing demand for justice. To the representations of the judges to this effect, His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor says that this is not a fitting opportunity to entertain any proposal which involves additional expenditure, but suggests that "the judges should resubmit the case in a special report when the Court closes for its vacation." The judges have made out a clear case, and we have no doubt their representations will meet with that consideration which they so justly deserve.

AT THE last meeting of the Calcutta Corporation, the Commissioners passed a Resolution, "placing on record their sense of the great loss which the Corporation has sustained by the death of the Rev. K. M. Banerjee, who for a period of nine years was connected with this Municipality."

WE BEG to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following publications:—

1. Journal of the East India Association Vol. XVI.
2. Price List of Printing Paper, Cards, Envelopes, General Stationary, Type, Ink and Printing Presses.
3. The Secret of Death and Other Poems, by Edwin Arnold, M. A.
4. Report of the Land Revenue Settlement of the Dehra Ismail Khan District, Punjab, 1872-79.
5. Report on the Land Revenue Settlement of the Bannu District, 1872-78.
6. Maps connected with Settlement Report of the Bannu District, 1879.
7. Volume of Maps to accompany the Dera Ismail Khan Settlement Report.
8. Bishad Sindhu, Part 1, or the History of the Maharam, by Mir Mosaruff Hossain.

MR. SETON-KARR published in a recent number of the *National Review* his remarkable views upon the Bengal Tenancy Bill. The writer is an out and out supporter of this revolutionary measure. Mr. Roper Lethbridge has in a masterly manner analysed the statements made by Mr. Seton-Karr, and exposed the fallacies upon which they are based. The following extracts from Mr. Lethbridge's letter will amply repay perusal:

Mr. Seton-Karr's letter sets out by begging the whole question at issue in the most audacious way. He says, "The draft Act was the just and inevitable outcome of an investigation of the most searching and comprehensive kind; and he trots out the Famine commission, the Behar commission and the Bengal Rent commission. Now, I would like to ask Mr. Seton-Karr what are the opinions of the chief Justice of Bengal, of Mr. Justice Field, or of any other judicial authority, as to the value *for the particular purpose of this Bill*, of these various inquiries, paraded with so much pomp? The infinite complications of the land question in Bengal hardly occupied the tiniest corner in the vast scope of the investigations of Famine commission; and the conclusions at which they arrived, based on rapid and necessarily incomplete observations, were so exceedingly broad and general, that they might be used as arguments either for or against most of the provisions of the Bengal Tenancy Bill. And as to the other commissions named, it has been alleged that their deliberations were either perfunctory, or one sided, or capricious; and, however this may be, there can be no question whatever about the fact, that not a single one of these inquires has been conducted with any of those guarantees for thoroughness and impartiality—such as sworn evidence, cross-examination, the free admission of rebutting evidence, the hearing of experts on both sides, and full publicity—which are as necessary in India as in England, if any weight whatever is to attach to the conclusions arrived at. Suppose in a question regarding the relations between English ships owners and their sailors, three or four Board of Trade officials and two or three French or German merchants were sent, down to Newmarket or Doncaster, to talk the matter over in the intervals between the races, over their cigars and champagne—would that be regarded by Mr. Seton-Karr as "an investigation of the most searching and comprehensive kind"? And yet, the Report of the proceedings of the Behar Commission held at Sonepur, which is before me as I write shows that scarcely more formality was observed, and tha the analogy I have suggested is not a strained one.

Mr. Seton-Karr denies that the Tenancy Bill introduces the Irish Land Act into Bengal, on the ground that the principles of that Act were introduced into Ireland from Bengal. But he does not deny the obvious fact that the principles of the two Acts are practically identical; nor does he show any good reason why the application of those principles should be so largely extended as it will be under the new legislation, even supposing—which is strenuously denied by the zemindars—that the germs of them already exist in the laws or customs of the country.

This broad statement, again, is positively and categorically contradicted by the zemindars; is not the necessity for a searching inquiry obvious? And be it observed that we are not told that these "oppressions," &c., are practised *now*; nor does the writer tell us whether he refers to "oppressions," due to defects in the existing law, or to oppressions pratied in defiance of the law and, therefore, not to be remedied by a change in the law.

Mr. Seton-Karr defends the indecent haste with which the Bill has at the last been rushed into law without the formality of republication in the vernacular languages, on two grounds. First, he tells us that the Select Committee was of opinion that the alterations made in the measure were not of sufficient importance to call for its republication; but he ignores the facts [1] that this was the "opinion", of the official majority, [2] that the members representing the interests directly affected by the Bill urgently demanded its republication, and [3] that out of 228 clauses, no less than 81 were either altogether cut out or altogather added or largely modified. And, secondly, he declares that the changes that were made were entirely in favour of the zemindars—to such an extent, indeed, that the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal and other *quondam* supporters of the Bill now refuse to regard it as a final assertion of the tenant's rights; but surely it is obvious that—for the sake of the tenants in the present, and for the sake of the zemindars in the future—this affords the strongest possible argument for the republication and reconsideration of the Bill? For it only proves that the Government is perversely forcing into law a measure that is hateful to all parties. As the Maharajah of Darbhanga said, in the course of his eloquent and impassioned protest in the final debate in the Viceroy's Council. "To me it seems amazing that we should be considering the matter at all, for among the many millions of people who will be affected by the Bill, *not a single voice has been raised in its favour*! Compare these circumstances with those of the Irish Land Act: would Mr. Gladstone have dared to pass that Act merely to gratify a sentimental Radical whim, by the aid only of English and Scotch votes, if Ireland had been in a state of profound peace, and if every Irishman, whether tenant or landlord, whether Tory or Radical, had declared that the measure would ruin the country? And yet even Mr. Seton-Karr will admit that this is exactly what has occurred in Bengal. The denunciations of the Bill by the *Indian Mirror*, the organ of the ryots or tenants, have been fully as bitter as those of the *Hindoo Patriot*; the ultra-Radical *Statesman* has warned the Government of its disastrous blunder with as much earnestness as any Conservative or Moderate Liberal paper in the country.

Elsewhere Mr. Seton-Karr says—"Tenant-right has been shown by an overwhelming preponderance of opinion to be saleable all over Bengal proper, and, to a certain degree, in Behar." Would it surprise Mr. Seton-Karr to learn that the Native Judge has stated most solemnly that during an eighteen years' experience in the very districts (Backergunge and other parts of Eastern and Central Bengal) where alone it has been *suggested* that this right has *existed*, he has never known or heard of

single case in which it has been exercised? Here, again, the zemindars have positively and unanimously denied the existence of the alleged right, and demanded a full inquiry; is it just for the Government to refuse the inquiry, and yet for the advocates of the Government policy to persist, notwithstanding the refusal, in such dogmatic assertions? With the utmost respect for Mr. Seton-Karr's authority, I venture to say that his letter teems with such assertions. He *may* be right, or the zemindars may be right. The British public may fairly refuse to decide arbitrarily between them; but it seems to me that the merest decency, to say nothing of justice or honour, imperatively demands that the public inquiry which the zemindars claim should be granted them. When the Chief Justice of Bengal frankly declares that he "looks with horror and dismay on this revolutionary measure—when the late Hon. Kristodas Pal, the representative of the people of Bengal for whose appointment to the Council Lord Ripon took so much credit, has written of it as "a godless measure of wholesale robbery—when every paper in the country, Conservative, Liberal, or radical denounces it as shameless spoliation—we ought not to accept the *ipse dixit* of even such an eminent authority as Mr. Seton-Karr, when he assures us that the whole Native community of Bengal is mistaken in regard to its merits. Mr. Seton-Karr gives us a *mot* of Mr. Holt Mackenzie's, an authority no less eminent than himself on these questions; "I," said Holt Mackenzie, "have been studying them (the land-laws of India) for a quarter of a century, and am not quite sure that I understand them yet. May not the lesson here taught be of wider application than Mr. Seton-Karr seems to think?

Dr. De Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil.—Its Unequalled Efficacy in General Debility.—In cases of debility and Defective Nutrition, the use of this celebrated Oil has been attended with remarkably beneficial results. Rowlands Dalton Esq. District Medical Officer, Bury St Edmunds, writes:—"In giving my opinion of Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil, I have no hesitation in saying that I have not the slightest confidence in any other kind. The effects of Dr. de Jongh's Oil are sure and most remarkable, especially in that broken-down state of health and strength, which usually precedes and favours tubercular deposit; and I never recommend any other sort. The Oil I have had from you was for my own use and it has certainly been the only means of saving my life on two occasions; and even now, when I feel 'out of condition,' I take it, and like it, unmixed with any thing, as being the most agreeable way. I could wish that Dr. de Jongh's Oil would come into general use, and entirely supersede the Pale and other worthless preparations." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints, pints, and quarts, with his stamp and signature and the signature of his sole consignees on the capsule and the lable under wrapper, by all chemists, druggists and store-keepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar, Harford and Co., 210, High Holborn, London.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

Mofussil Subscriptions.	R.	As.	P
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Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette—*May 13th* 1885.

General—21st April—The services of Capt W D Conner Aide-de-Camp on the personal staff of the Lieut-Govr of Bengal, are replaced at the disposal of the Govt of India in the Milty Dept, from 22nd inst.

1st May—The Conservr of Forests, Bengal, to be an ex-officio member of the Central Exam Committee, Calcutta.

4th May—Mr A S Womack, Asst Magte and Colr, Setamarhee, Muzufferpore, is vested with the powers of a Colr under Act X of 1870 in that dist.

In modification of the order of 12th Jany last, Baboo Mokunda Deb Mookerjee, Tempy Depy Magte and Depy Colr, Arrareah, Purneah, leave for three months.

Baboo Ramakhoy Chatterjee, Depy Magte and Depy Colr, Cuttack, to perform the functions of a Colr under sect 4 of Act VII, B C, 1880.

6th May—Mr W H Mackenzie, Offg Depy Magte and Depy Colr, Lohardagga, leave for fifteen days, from date he may avail himself of it.

8th May—Mr W O Macpherson, Offg Jt-Magte and Depy Colr, Nowada, Gya, to act as Under-Secy to the Govt of Bengal in the Genl and Rev Depts, during absence, on deputn, of Mr C W Bolton.

Mr H W Barbar, Depy Magte and Depy Colr, Noakholly, is transfd, to Gya, and to have charge of the Nowada sub.divn of that dist.

Baboo Satis Chandra Bose, Offg Depy Magte and Depy Colr, Tipperah, is transfd to Noakholly, and is posted to the sudder station of that dist.

Mr A C Tute, Jt-Magte and Depy Colr, second grade, is promtd to the first grade of Jt-Magtes and Depy Colr from 29th ult, vice Mr C A Wilkins, confirmed as Registr of the High Court.

Mr Tute will continue to act as Magte and Colr of Pubna.

Mr C M W Brett, Asst Magte and Colr 24-Perghs is promtd to the 2nd grade of Jt-Matges and Depy Colrs, vice Mr A C Tute.

Mr Brett will continue to act in the first grade of Jt Magtes and Depy Colrs.

9th May—Mr F E Pargiter, Offg Under-Secy to the Govt of Bengal in the Genl and Rev Depts to act in first grade of Jt-Magtes and Depy Colrs, and is posted to the 24-Perghs.

Mr Pargiter is vested with the powers of a Colr under Act X of 1870 in that dist.

Baboo Tara Nath Bose, Tempy Sub Depy Colr, Mymensingh, leave for three weeks, from date he may avail himself of it.

11th May—Mr G A Grierson, C S, reported his departure from India, on furlough, on 30th ult.

The undermentioned officers reported their departure from India, on leave, on the dates mentioned opposite their names:—

Mr A L Clay, C S 30th ult, and Mr C P Caspersz, C S, 24th ult.

The services of the following officers are placed at the disposal of the Rev Dept of this Govt for employment under the Dirtr of Agriculture, Bengal:—

Mr D B Allen, Asst Magte and Colr; Mr Ambicachurn Sen, Asstt Magte and colr, Mr Shahawat Hossein, Offg Depy Magte and Depy Colr.

Baboo Annada Prosad Bose, Depy Magte and Depy Colr, Chumparun, to act as Persl Asst to the Comr of the Chittagong Divn, during the absence, on deputn, of Baboo Ashootosh Gupta.

The cancels order of 20th ult, apptg Mr T D Moran, Depy Magte and Depy Colr, on leave, to act as Persl Asst to the Comr of Chittagong divn.

12th May—Mr F J Marsden, chief Presidency Magte, Calcutta, reported his departure from India, on leave on 24th ult.

Police—8th May—Mr F A Fullerton, Offg Asst Supdt of Police, Backergunge, is transfd to Dacca, from date he joined his apptmt.

Mr S N Walker, Tempy Asst Supdt of Police, Furreedpore, is transfd to Backergunge.

Registration—8th May—Moulvie Roazuddin Ahmed, B A, to be Jt Sub-Regtr of Boalkhali in Chittagong.

11th May—Baboo Bipin Mohun Sihanavis, Rural Sub-Regtr of Govindgunge, in Rangpore, to be Rural Sub-Regtr of Kurigram, in the same dist, vice Baboo Annada Prosad Dutt.

Moulvie Khalilur Khan chowdhri to be Rural Sub-Regtr of Gobindgunge in Rungpore, vice Baboo Bipin Mohun Sihanavis, transfd.

Education—4th May—Baboo Chandra Mohun Mozumdar, Head Master of the Chittagong College, to act as Asst Inspr of schools, Presidency Divn, during the absence, on deputn, of Baboo Radhika Prasanna Mookerjee, from 1st June next.

Road Cess.—5th May—Moulvie Ameer Safdur to be a member of the Jamooee Branch Road Committee in Monghyr.

Baboo Ambica Churn Sen, to be Vice-Chairman of the Dist Road Committee, Khoolna, vice Baboo Dino Nath Dey, transfd.

6th May—choudhuri Syed Abdul Jubber and Syed Abdul Huq are apptd to be members of the Mymensingh Dist Road committee.

Forest Department—12th May—consequent on the return from furlough of Mr A J Mein, Depy Conservr of Forests, third grade, in Assam, the following reversions will take effect from 29th March, 1885:—

Mr W M Green, Offg Depy Conservr of Fores, third grade, reverts to his substantive apptmt in fourth grade of Depy Conservr.

Mr C A G Lillingston, Offg Depy Conservr of Forests fourth grade, reverts to his substantive apptmt in the first grade of Asst Conservr.

Advertisements.

CALCUTTA MUNICIPAL CORPORATION.

1. Sealed Tenders will be received by the undersigned up to 2 P M. of the 26th May 1885, for the supply of undermentioned stones: 175000 running feet Straight, Kirb and Channel Stones; 4,000 running feet Kirb and Channel Stones 10 feet radius; 1,000 running feet Kirb and Channel Stones 8 feet radius; delivered at the Municipal Depots at the Bagbazar or Nimtollah by the 31st March 1886.

2. The Stones are to be dressed Mirzapore Slabs 12 inches broad 4 inches thick, and each piece not less than 3 feet in length, and to be of the best quality as per specification which can be seen at this office.

3 Tenders must be submitted for the whole quantity stones required or any part not less than 50,000 running feet, and be accompanied by earnest deposit of Rs. 2,000.

4 The successful tenderer shall be required to sign a deed of contract duly stamped and registered at his own expense and to keep the earnest money in deposit to the credit of the Corporation as security for the due fulfilment of the contract. In case of failure to sign the deed of contract within 4 weeks of the acceptance of tender the earnest money shall be forfeited.

The Commissioners do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

Further information required can be had on application.

Udoynarain Singha.
Superintendent of Stores.

Calcutta, 7th May 1885.

Bengal Bonded Warehouse Association,

91st Dividend.

The Dividend for the half-year ended 30th April 1885 of Rs. —— per share will be payable on and from the 19th instant.

Calcutta, The 13th May 1885. } J. F. Rutherfoord, Secretary.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

OF THE

Bengal Bonded Warehouse Association

FOR THE

Half-year ended 30th April 1885.

1. Your Directors submit for examination and approval the accounts of the Association for the half-year ended 30th April 1885.

2. On the 31st October last the uncollected rent-bills amounted to Rs. 5,925-4-6; during the subsequent six months bills were issued for Rs. 38,063-8-3; of these two amounts Rs. 39,237-2-0 have been realised, leaving Rs. 4,751-10-9 outstanding, of which Rs. 347-7-9 is considered doubtful.

3. The business has been falling off, but now there is appearance of improvement.

4. The divisible surplus amounts to Rs. 16,807-10-0, which after reserving Rs. 2,000 as usual for the Repair and Building Fund, will admit of a dividend of Rs. 7 per share, and the transfer of Rs. 807-10-0 to current Profit and Loss.

5. Honorable Doorga Churn Law and Mr. W. J. M. McCaw, who go out by rotation, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election as Directors.

David Cowie,
Tarinee Churn Bhose,
Doorga Churn Law,
W. J. M. McCaw,
A. B. Sutherland.

Calcutta, The 8th may 1885.

At the Half-yearly General Meeting of Proprietors of the Bengal Bonded Warehouse Association held at their Office on Wednesday the 13th May 1885, at noon the following Resolutions were passed.

Dr. R. C. Chandra, *in the Chair.*

1. *Proposed by*—David Cowie Esq.
Seconded by—A. B. Sutherland Esq.
That the Report of the Directors be received and the Accounts passed as correct.

2. *Proposed by*—Babu Joy Gobind Law.
Seconded by— „ Mudden Mohun Bysack.
That the divisible surplus of Rs. 16,807-10-0 be appropriated in terms of the 4th paragraph of the Directors' Report, and that a dividend be declared of Rs. 7 per share payable on and from the 19th instant.

3. *Proposed by*—G. H. Kiernander Esq.
Seconded by—Babu Tarinee Churn Bhose.
That the retiring Directors Hon'ble Doorga Churn Law and Mr. W. J. M. McCaw be re-elected.

4. *Proposed by*—Babu Toolsey Das Seal.
Seconded by—G. H. Kiernander Esq.
That a Committee of undermentioned Proprietors be appointed to consult with the Directors as to the best mode of reducing the future expenditure of the Association.

Dr. R. C. Chandra,
Mr. G. H. Kiernander,
Babu Toolsey Das Seal,
„ Mudden Mohun Bysack

5. *Proposed by*—W. J. M. McCaw Esq.
Seconded by—Babu Joy Gobind Law.
That the appointment of Mr. J. F. Rutherfoord on a salary of Rs. 500 per mensem as Secretary from 1st March last in the place of Mr. H. W. I. Wood who has retired from the service be confirmed.

6. *Proposed by*—The Chairman.
Seconded by—G. H. Kiernander Esq.
That the thanks of the meeting on behalf of the Shareholders be given to the Directors, Secretary and Establishment for their services during the past half year.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair the meeting separated.

R. C. Chandra,
Chairman

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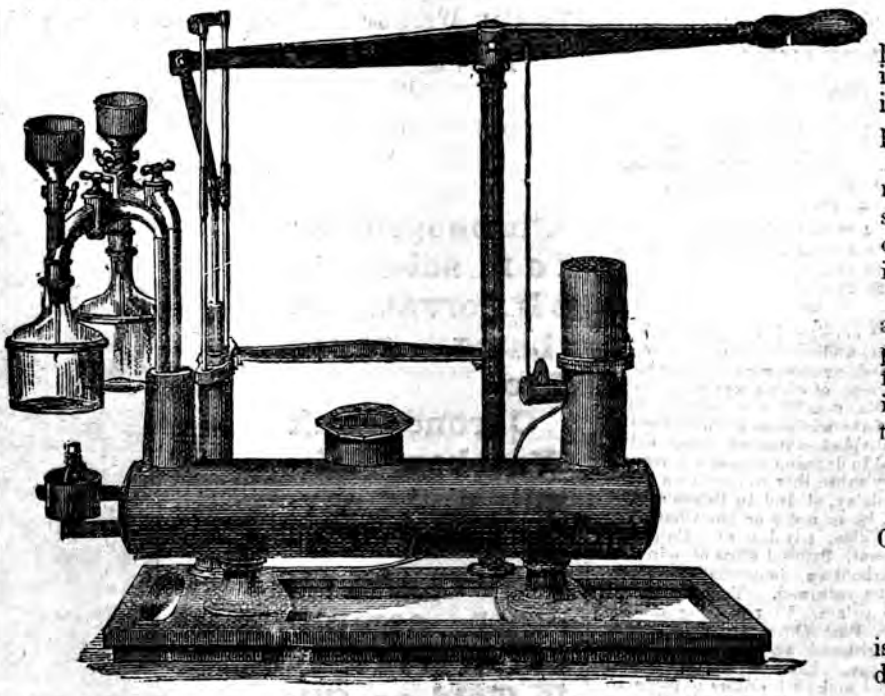

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20	62	2	0	46	8	0	39	0	0	20
25	64	12	0	48	8	0	41	0	0	25
30	68	8	0	51	10	0	44	0	0	30
35	73	8	0	56	0	0	47	12	0	35
40	79	8	0	61	0	0	52	2	0	40
45	86	0	0	66	10	0	57	8	0	45

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	Age 60			Age 50			Age 55			
	Rs.	As	P.	Rs.	As	P.	Rs.	As.	P.	
20	32	2	0	34	14	0	33	14	0	20
25	36	0	0	40	0	0	46	0	0	25
30	42	4	0	48	0	0	57	6	0	35
35	50	0	0	59	2	0	75	4	0	30

N.B.—Risks on Native Lives are accepted on special terms.

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By order of the Directors,

R. HARDIE.
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IMPORTANT NOTICE.

SIGHT IS THE GREATEST GEM OF NATURE.

We have just received per steamers "Mirzapore" and "Manora" a large assortment of spectacles and eye glasses, Telescopes, Opera glasses, Field glasses, Thermometers, Lactometers, Chemical Thermometers, Botanical lenses, Magic Lanterns, Magnetic Machines, Watch-charms and compasses, eye preservers &c. Our cool Brazillian Pebble spectacles have been proved by thousands to be the best and cheapest ever offered to the public :—

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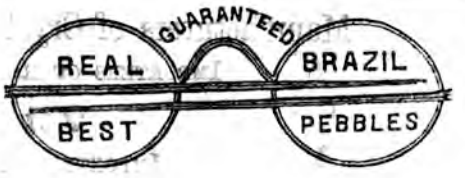

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